



# MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

PROMOTING SUCCESS ON THE COURT, ON THE FIELD, ON STAGE  
AND EVERYWHERE ELSE UNDER THE BIG SKY SINCE 1921.

June 20, 2023

**TO: MHPA EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**FROM: BRIAN MICHELOTTI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**RE: THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2023 – 10:00 A.M.**

Mr. Thennis has directed that a conference call of the Executive Board be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The following are the agenda items for consideration:

- 1) State Superintendent's Appointee - TBD
- 2) Final action on two-week notice items from the April meeting (we did not receive any comments on any of the items):
  - a) Language for live streaming in MHPA Schools:
    1. All Post Season live video-streaming of MHPA events will be exclusively broadcast on the NFHS Network.
    2. All video streaming of regular season events must be approved by the MHPA Executive Director. The NFHS Network is the preferred service of the MHPA. If a school uses a different commercial company for streaming their regular events, these events must also be live parallel streamed on the NFHS Network.
  - b) Approved changing the number of preseason days of practice from 10 to 8 in all sports except football and golf. Football will remain at 10 and golf will remain at 2 preseason required practices.
  - c) The Board approved a policy to send digital NFHS rule books to schools for all sports beginning in the 2023-24 school year. A hard copy of the rule book can be received upon request.
  - d) The Board approved the following MHPA Post Season Ticket Prices for the 2023-24 school year.
  - e) MOA Items
    1. Approved One Way Mileage for Officials for the postseason.
    2. Approved an increase to the sub-varsity pay for MOA officials. \$48 to \$55
    3. Approved a change to the MOA soccer assigning policy and fee structure.
  - f) Approved walk-up music in MHPA Baseball and Softball (No Post Season Change)
  - g) Baseball - Walk-up music may be played if approved by the school's administration.
  - h) Updated the Pre-Participation Physical Exam form for the 2023-24 school year
  - i) The Board approved revised language, criteria and procedures for football reclassification.
  - j) Approved a new MHPA jewelry policy. NFHS rules or governing body.
  - k) Approved a new rule regarding the additional practice requirements when a student transfers to another school.
  - l) Approved new MHPA Summer Coaching rule (Tuesday after Memorial Day)
  - m) Approved Volleyball to go back to switching benches between sets.
  - n) Approved language regarding the participation on outside club teams during the MHPA team sport seasons



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- 3) Spring Tournament Evaluations
  - a) State Baseball – Aric, Scott and Brian
  - b) State Tennis – Class AA – Greta, Class A – Scott and Aric State B-C – Greta
  - c) State Golf – Class B- John and Brian, State C – Brian
  - d) State Softball – Class AA – Steve & Amy, State A – Jim H, Amy & Brian, State B-C – Amy
  - e) State Track – Class AA -B – John, Jimmy and Kip, State A-C – Kara, Aric, Krystal, Brian and Scott
- 4) **Class AA Requested Changes for 2023-24** and information from Summer Meeting
  - a) Football - Change the existing football mercy rule (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter)
  - b) Soccer – Soccer Behavior Improvement Plan (AA and A)
  - c) Winter Sports Date start time (No Action Required)
  - d) Winter Sports date will start the Monday of Thanksgiving. Black our Period over Thanksgiving (No Action Required)
  - e) Divisional Basketball Tourney Schedule (No 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Place Game)
  - f) Swimming – 500 Meter Prelims on Thursday at State
  - g) Track – Top 8 (vs 6) advance to State.
  - h) Tennis – Mandatory post season tie breaker
- 5) **Class A Requested Changes for 2023-24** and information from Summer Meeting
  - a) Football – Adjusted Playoff Bracket (No Crossover 1<sup>st</sup> Round)
  - b) Soccer – Updated Playoff Bracket
  - c) Softball –
    1. 22 games in regular season as opposed to 20 games. (Same B/C and AA)
    2. Bat testing at divisional tournaments to Class 'A' Handbook.
  - d) Track & Field –
    1. Return to 10 from the east and 10 from the west qualifying for state.
    2. East and West Divisional Track Qualifying – Top 30
  - e) Wrestling – Extra 4 Wrestlers – Can enter 2 in any weight class
  - f) Postseason - qualifying for state –
    1. No more play-in games to get to the state tournament in volleyball and basketball (4 from east and 4 from west).
    2. Track & Field qualifiers will go back to 10 from east and 10 from west.
  - g) FYI – No Action Required
    1. 8th grade participation for 22-23 season: 11 schools not allowing (4 considering it), 13 schools allowing
    2. Baseball - three schools potentially adding for 23-24 season.
    3. Add coaches box for field events at the state meet: 24 for, 0 opposed
    4. Option - Class 'A' teams move to Class 'B' for football: 13 for, 8 opposed, 3 unsure
    5. Wrestling State tournament moved 2-day to 3-day: 21 for, 1 opposed, 2 unsure
    6. Wrestling new boys weight class (NFHS class +100lb): 16 for, 5 opposed, 3 unsure
    7. Wrestling new girls weight class: 15 for, 5 opposed, 4 unsure
    8. State Music Festival date change to April: 24 for, 0 opposed



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- 6) **Class B Requested Changes for 2023-24** and information from Summer Meeting
  - a) Football - Scott
    1. Class B 11-Player Football Playoff bracket, tie breaker language change
    2. Alternate Whitehall and Jefferson from the South to the West Football Division every 2 years
  - b) Tennis - Propose adding B/C Divisional Team Trophies using the Award rule - Greta
  - c) Golf - Brian
    1. State Shotgun start procedure changes – Practice Round and 1<sup>st</sup> Day
    2. Rename the Golf Divisions – From Numbers to Geographic area
    3. Request to Rotate State Golf Meet location – North to SouthEast to West
  - d) Cross Country - Change State XC Qualifying times to 22:00 (Boys) and 27:00 (Girls) - Kip
- 7) **Class C Requested Changes for 2023-24** and information from Summer Meeting
  - a) FYI – Votes on MHSA Items - All
    1. Football re-classification rubric
    2. Post-season basketball officials selection changes
    3. Reclassification Multiplier
    4. Wrestling weight class adjustments and tournament format
  - b) Track and Field – Change Divisional qualifiers to the State Track Meet to 6-6-6-6. - Kip
  - c) Golf - Brian
    1. Hold State Golf on Sunday (practice round), Monday, and Tuesday.
    2. Lower the participant and team numbers who qualify at Divisional Golf for State
    3. Divisional pay for the required marker's meals, whether a team brings their required markers or not.
  - d) Cross Country – Kip
    1. State C Cross Country qualifying standards to 22 boys and 27 girls
    2. Exploring Divisional Meet and Qualifiers
  - e) Realignment in Class C – All Sports possible in 2024-25 - Brian
- 8) MHSA Handbook Clarifications and Additions
  - a) Open Gym Rules
  - b) School Board Action needed on 8<sup>th</sup> grade policies.
  - c) Committees – clarification on Native America or Native American School Representative.
  - d) Increase fine to school using alternate video streaming platform in MHSA Post Season. - Brian
  - e) Baseball and Softball – Scott and Amy
    1. No Walkup Music – No Post Season
    2. Mercy Rule change – Remove Mutual Agreement by coaches
  - f) Speech and Debate changes - Amy
- 9) Cooperative Sponsorships
  - a) Fort Benton / Highwood – Enrollment Appeal – Girls Basketball
  - b) Three Forks / Ennis Wrestling – Review and Placement in Class A Wrestling
- 10) Employee Policy Manual



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- a) Floating Holiday – Easter Monday to allow flexibility.
- 11) 2023 State Baseball Bid - Missoula
- 12) Sidney Appeal of Decision on Wrestling Scoring Error
- 13) Student Advisory Committee Update – 5 New Members
- 14) 2022-23 Budget Close Out
  - a) Budget Items:
    - Year End Purchases
    - Reserve amounts
    - Other items –
- 15) MHSAA Office - Staff responsibilities updates and office with BCBSMT BlueNorth Strategic Planning Process
- 16) Basketball Shot Clocks – Gyms that do have shot clocks for Subvarsity games - Greta
- 17) For the Good of the Order – additional items?

We look forward to seeing all of you Thursday morning!